

February 9, 2022 1600 - COVID-19 Mandate Protests Operational Impacts Sit Rep

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Attachments: February 9, 2022 1600 ET COVID-19 Mandate Protests Operational Impact SitRep.docx (402.75 kB)

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<i>Situational Report</i>
COVID-19 Mandate Protests Operational Impacts
February 9, 2022 – 16:00

Background

On January 15, 2022, an Order of Council (OIC) was put in place to mandate vaccinations for commercial truck drivers crossing the border. As a result, commercial truck drivers around the country have organized and started protesting outside port of entries (POEs) by blocking roads and slowing traffic, along with a convoy of commercial vehicles headed towards Ottawa to protest outside Parliament.

Bottom Line

Ambassador Bridge:

- As of 1500 ET: Bridge remains closed to inbound (to Canada) traffic. As of 1400h, 75 vehicles(transport and passenger), 200-225 protestors are present at AMB. WPS is aware of priority to get Southbound Huron Church open because of possibility of BWB closing. As of 1500h, there are no protestors / blockade on Northbound Huron Church. Windsor Police have blocked off traffic access to this area, from Tecumseh Rd to College Ave. Blockade remains in the Southbound Lanes only. Alternative routes have been provided to employees.
- SOR reports unconfirmed intelligence that s.37 public inquiry line received a message about plans to block train tracks. All partners are investigating, no evidence has been found to give this message credibility.
- Windsor Tunnel – no delay reported and no protest activity. Activity in the area of the Tunnel continues to be monitored.

Blue Water Bridge:

- As of 1400, OPP has advised that the Freedom Convoy is blockading the westbound lanes of the 402 highway at Nauvoo Road. The 402 is now closed at Nauvoo Road. The convoy is heading westbound Forest. OPP have implemented Emergency Detour Routes (EDR) in the vicinity of the convoy. Vehicles will be able to exit the highway and reenter safely at later point. As of 1400h, The group from Centennial Park in Sarnia has entered the 402 Eastbound possibly to join the blockade. Approximately 8-10 vehicles were present. SOR continues to monitor.
- As of 1419 ET Blue Water Bridge border wait time is 4 hrs 30 min for trucks entering Canada. There is no delay for US-bound traffic.
- Peace Bridge: latest update at 1550 ET – 43 min wait time for commercial trucks. Still no sign of protests in the area.

- **Coutts:** No change reported from this morning. All lanes (South and North bound) have been blocked. CBP is engaged and will work to hold traffic (advise of delay/divert) until this latest blockade is resolved.
- **Pacific Highway:** No changes reported from this morning.

Upcoming protest events:

Upcoming Events		
ONGOING	CONFIRMED	UNCONFIRMED
· Ottawa – February 9, 2022, Parliament Hill protest continues · Coutts – North and South bound traffic is flowing with one lane open in each direction and gates are open. Protestors continue to line the highway north of the POE. · Windsor Convoy for Freedom 2022 – Ambassador Bridge, February 7,8 &9, 2022 · Pacific Highway, Feb 7,8&9 – Off POE Property – no impact.	· Ottawa – February 9, 2022, protests continue at Parliament Hill and downtown.	CANADA: · Blue Water Bridge, SOR – February 9, 2022 · Sault Ste. Marie, NOR – February 9, 2022 · Montreal, QUE – February 12, 2022 (convoy to Ottawa) · Peace Bridge, SOR – February 12, 2022 · North Portal, SK / Boissevain, MG – unconfirmed US: · Washington, US Capital - February 8 and 9, 2022, US Freedom Convoy s.38 · Buffalo – February 11, 2022 · Port Huron / Sarnia – February 12, 2022 EUROPE: · Brussels - Freedom Convoy Europe 2022 (Unconfirmed) · New Zealand – protest activity in support of Canadian protests · Australia- protest activity in support of Canadian protests ·

US Protestors Identified at Port of Entries

- Reports received from CBSA POEs regarding Enhanced Vigilance Exams of potential protestors:

POE	Vehicle #	Enhanced vigilance exams (PAX #)	Direct Back	Allowed to Leave	Granted Entry	Comments
Pac Hwy Traffic, PAC	2	3	3	0		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Douglas, PAC	10	21	18	3		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Lansdowne, NOR	1	2			2	Journalists looking to document the protests in Ottawa. Provided necessary credentials and had equipment consistent with their stated purpose of travel.
Prescott, NOR	1	1			1	Unvaccinated Cdn citizen/US resident has been directed to quarantine by CBSA and PHAC
Sault Ste. Marie, NOR	2	2	1			- U.S. citizen attempting to join protest in Ottawa. - Feb 5: Cdn citizen expressing extremist views refused to comply with COVID entry requirements and ran the port
Total	16	29	22	3	3	

Atlantic Region

- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Quebec Region

- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Northern Ontario Region

- As of 12:45, Sault Ste. Marie POE reported information a potential protest will start today. Both CBSA and International Bridge Administration are closely monitoring. At this time, there is no impact on the operation and no signs of protest activity

Greater Toronto Area Region

- No impact to CBSA operations reported.

Southern Ontario Region

Passage count week by week comparison (updated Feb 9, 2022 0900 ET)

# Passages (Persons)	2022-01-31	2022-02-01	2022-02-02	2022-02-07	2022-02-08	2022-02-09
	Monday	Tuesday	Up to 09:00	Monday	Tuesday	Up to 09:00
Windsor Ambassador Bridge Travellers	2216	2212	145	760	21	6
Windsor Ambassador Bridge Commercial	3804	5216	1193	1855	6	0
Windsor Tunnel	2216	3386	301	4428	4972	549
St.Clair POEs						
Sarnia Blue Water Bridge Commercial	2238	2956	592	2817	5184	2085
Sarnia Blue Water Bridge Travellers	889	810	118	877	592	93
Corridor Total	11363	14580	2349	10737	10775	2732
Corridor Difference				-6%	-26%	16%

- Fort Erie (Peace Bridge):
Region reports that CBP partners in Detroit are reporting that General Motors (GM) will likely be diverting some outbound trucks to Canada through Buffalo due to delays at crossings near Detroit. May have an impact on Canadian bound traffic.

Blue Water Bridge

- As of 1500 ET on 09 February 2022, media is no longer onsite. The region reports social media posts that more protesters plan to slow roll Thursday down the 402 to join (unconfirmed, uncorroborated).
- The BOC, Communications and SOR ROC are engaged in planning should border alert messaging to the public and alternate routes be required.

Ambassador Bridge

- Feb 9, 2022, as of 1500 hours, there are no protestors / blockade on Northbound Huron Church. However, Windsor Police have blocked off traffic access to this area, from Tecumseh Rd to College Ave. Blockade remains in the Southbound Lanes only.
- As of 1500h, No media outlets/cameras/marked vehicles seen at this time..
- Media reports that Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens says the city has asked for federal assistance with a protest impacting traffic on the road leading up to the Ambassador Bridge international border crossing.

Prairie Region

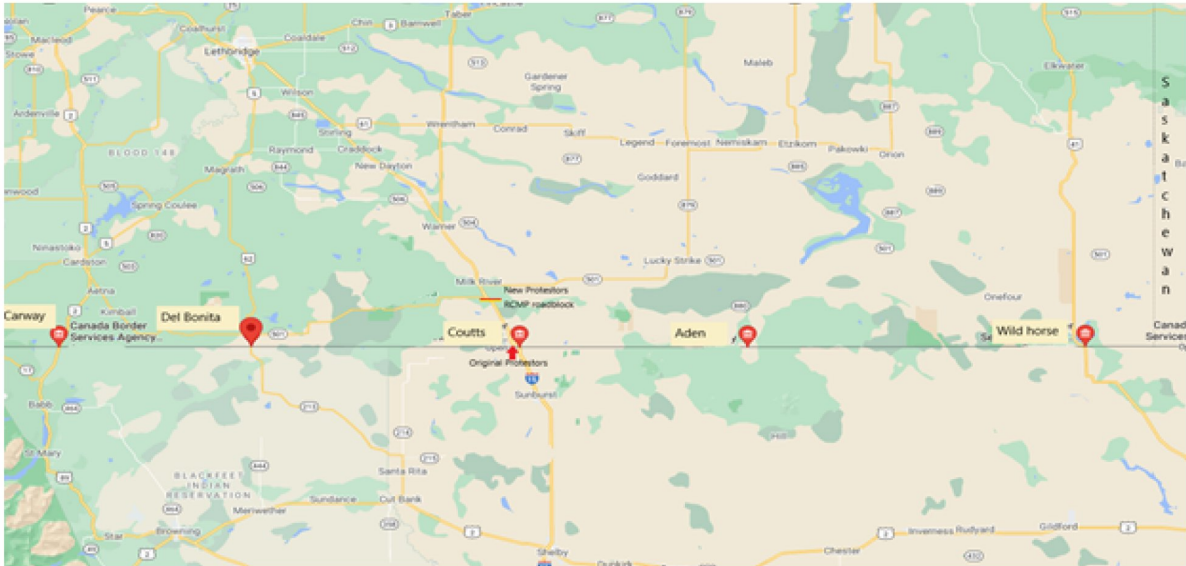
Traffic Volumes

# Passages (Persons)	2022-01-22	2022-01-23	2022-01-24	2022-01-25	2022-01-26	2022-01-27	2022-01-28	2022-01-29	2022-01-30	2022-01-31	2022-02-01	2022-02-02	2022-02-03	2022-02-04	2022-02-05	2022-02-06	2022-02-07	2022-02-08
	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Coutts Travellers	234	253	388	251	177	232	286	202	22	20	11	9	44	74	68	180	164	119
Coutts Commercial*	397	372	361	349	479	588	519	262	23	0	0	0	72	121	150	177	208	179
Del Bonita	0	0	43	8	19	33	25	0	0	186	225	173	224	172	0	0	87	88
Carway	47	78	29	21	24	28	30	35	211	127	132	97	90	81	135	183	88	41
Aden	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	3	32	11	17	8	13	14	14	14	2	5
Other Commercial POEs																		
Regway	41	30	57	40	48	64	63	39	78	66	117	85	103	85	49	49	68	72
Rossville	72	150	105	70	143	146	146	99	271	223	367	369	187	355	333	226	335	113
North Portal Travellers	43	35	74	59	48	71	73	73	83	72	68	53	66	94	59	71	71	64
North Portal Commercial	335	258	205	290	316	393	377	334	280	229	268	458	426	305	222	353	281	330

Coutts

- As of 0917 ET, POE gates remain closed.

Road map locations of Carway, Coutts and Del Bonita POEs, AB:



Pacific Region

- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Intelligence and Enforcement

Intelligence Landscape

BLUF: As of Feb 9, 2022 at 1330 ET, the overall threat to CBSA officers and infrastructure is low.

ANALYSIS:

General Threats

- **No change to posture.** According to the RCMP, no formal organized plot of violence has been identified. Factors such as the circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers may impact the temperature of the crowd. The potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted.
- The City of Ottawa declared a state of emergency at 16:15 ET on Feb 6th and OPS tweeted on FEB6 at 14:30 ET that enforcement is underway and “anyone attempting to bring material supports to the demonstrations could be subject to arrest”. **Open source reporting indicates that OPS have granted permission to the protesters to set up a new vehicle overflow encampment in the parking lot of a federal government complex at 1500 Bronson Ave.**
- **No update.** Partners received information that an individual may be supplying weapons to protestors. This individual may have been previously imprisoned in the Yukon for weapons trafficking. Partners is undertaking OSINT to gather additional information about this individual.
- **No update.** OPS intelligence advise of a Discord chat “World Freedom Information Hub” which mentions that “convoy to ottawa and convoy east” have a plan in place and are organizing a new convoy to Ottawa.
- **No update.** A Facebook event page titled: “UNIS DANS L’AMOUR POUR LA LIBERTÉ ET CONVOI VERS OTTAWA. OTTAWA FREEDOM CONVOY SUPPORT” has been located. According to the event page, the group will be meeting at the Park Jarry in Montreal on 2022-02-12 at 0930hrs. The group is expected to march through residential streets for about an hour followed by a half hour of speeches back at Park Jarry. Organizers are then expected to organize a “mega” convoy towards Ottawa following the march and speeches. No additional details related

to the convoy have been identified. The Facebook event page has received significant online engagement (4.1k going, 4.9k interested).

- **No update.** At 14:22 ET on 08 February 2022, FCBL has reported that a slow roll protest is being planned on social media for Port Huron, MI (US). The slow roll is to occur on 12 February 2022 at approximately 13:00 ET. Further reporting indicates that the meet up location for participants is 510 Thomas Edison Parkway, Port Huron, MI.

POE Threats

- An ongoing analysis of SRT reporting, OSINT, s.38 [REDACTED] indicates that there are no credible threats currently identified for any POE.
- **No update:** On February 8, 2022, the port of Couitts it was reported at 2301 ET, that RCMP advised that both Northbound and Southbound lanes, north of the Port have been blocked off in Couitts. The blockade is approximately 18 kms from the POE. Presently, traffic is being held and USCP is holding traffic and no traffic is in line at PIL.
- On 09 February 2022, Bluewater Bridge (BWB) in Sarnia, ON as of At 10:47 ET reported all staff have been briefed on blockade and to use alternate routes when travelling to work. The OPP have reported that Highway 402 westbound is closed approximately 40 km east of Sarnia. As of 1030hr, it was reported that the convoy that was headed westbound toward the BWB is stopping in Forest, Ontario. Their plan is to stay there for 3 days. They reportedly only want to inconvenience traffic, not stop it completely. However, this may change depending on the actions of the other group assembling near the Blue Water Bridge. Truck traffic is being diverted to an Emergency Detour Route (EDR). As of 1200hr, a group has begun to congregate at Centennial Park in Sarnia, approximately 1 km from the Blue Water Bridge. At that time, approximately 8-10 vehicles were present, one of which was displaying a Freedom Convoy flag. A group of people are gathered as well, some carrying flags. Heavy Commercial traffic continues, with an ongoing BWT in excess of 4 hours. There is no delay for US-bound traffic. SOR IEO's Windsor Intel Unit has been monitoring any activity in Windsor, the apparent leaders are adamant to keep tunnel open. They want commerce stopped, not people. They state this often. They feel they would lose even more support. A Zello participant just brought up the tunnel and an identified leader reiterated that it is hands off as it is a conduit for ambulances for medical response to trauma centres in Detroit.
- On February 9, 2022 as of 10:38 ET, the Ambassador Bridge remains closed to inbound (to Canada) traffic. Employees are able to report to work, alternate routes are being taken if necessary. Protestors associated with Freedom Convoy have continued their blockade on city streets around Ambassador Bridge. All lanes are currently blocked on Huron Church Road WB. Protestors have no plan for departure at this time. Outbound traffic to US is open via Wyandotte St., however most commercial traffic is being redirected to Bluewater Bridge in Sarnia. Alternatively, passenger vehicles can still access the tunnel at Windsor/Detroit. Signs updated to encourage U.S. bound traffic to cross at Sarnia, Bluewater Bridge, from Windsor to Hwy 402 in London.
- As of 08:30 PST on February 9, 2022, the demonstration continues near Pacific Highway Port of Entry. Currently 20-30 participants are visible, all located at the side of 176 Street, between 2nd and 4th Avenues. The protestors have erected 7 small rain tents alongside the street and appear to be settling in with food and supplies. Protestors remain peaceful while displaying various "freedom messages" and waving Canadian flags. Local media appears to be reporting sporadically. RCMP viewed on site this morning engaging with the local protestors. Vehicle traffic in both North and South directions remains unaffected at this time.
 - o On February 9, 2022 as of 12:45 ET in Sault Ste. Marie the local International Bridge Administration relayed information to NOR, of a potential protest starting today. Increased monitoring is taking place by both CBSA and International Bridge Administration. At this time, there is no impact on the operation and no signs of protest activity. Sault Ste. Marie Police has also been made aware and have contingency plans in place. Any changes to the status of this event will be updated as required.
- Partner reporting states that unconfirmed open source information indicates that a convoy may block access to the Fort Erie Peace Bridge on 12 Feb, with potential to impact the Fort Erie-Buffalo border crossing. Any changes to the status of this event will be updated as required.

Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)

- **No update.** According to the RCMP, while chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest continues to circulate, concerns exist that protest events associated with the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety. To date there has been one reported POE encounter with an individual expressing extremist ideology. On Feb 5th, an individual ran the port at Sault Ste. Marie after expressing support for QAnon influencer Romana Didulo: “Queen Ramona has lifted all the mandates. The Trudeau Government has fallen and the Alliance is in charge. Queen Ramona has told us to report anyone who enforcing these mandates.” In 2021 Didulo supporters in Canada had hand delivered fake “cease and desist” orders to the Carson, Cascade, Paterson, Waneta, Nelway, Rykerts, & Kingsgate POEs. In 2021 Didulo urged her armed followers to kill individuals involved in administering the COVID vaccination program and also any individuals who enforce government mandated COVID restrictions or requirements for vaccination.

Other Threats

- **Ongoing threat.** The size, unorganized potential and general distraction of some these POE protests continue to create conditions where both criminal actors and migrants may use the events to illegally cross the border into Canada. This may also include protesters who wish to join events on the Canadian side of the border, but do not want to report to Border Service Officers.

Communications

- **As of February 9, 2022, Media Relations closed 17 media calls asking for an update/comment on the situation at Ambassador Bridge and three on the situation at Coutts.**

Other Governmental Departments

- **Minimal people on Parliament Hill and surrounding streets. OPP advising there could be slow roll protests in the suburbs of Ottawa or through small towns outside of the city (as of 10:30 EST, 09 Feb).**
- **Partner agency reports open source information indicates a convoy may block access to the Peace Bridge on 12 Feb 2022, with potential to impact the Fort Erie-Buffalo border crossing.**
- **Media reports on economic / supply chain impacts of SOR protest convoys:**
 - o [Ambassador Bridge blockade could quickly become problem for Canada's economy, experts say | CBC News](#)
 - o [Windsor Assembly shift sent home due to border blockade parts shortage | Driving](#)
 - o [Trucker border blockades tighten bottlenecks on choked supply chain | The Star](#)

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